(c) whether Government has agreed to grant citizenship to all their children who were born in India;

(d) whether Government will give them multiple visa for visit to Afghanistan and other countries;

(e) whether Government will allow the Hindus and Sikhs living in Afghanistan to come and stay with their families who are living in India permanently; and

(f) whether they will get Indian visa for longer time?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) In the year 2000, the policy relating to grant of Indian citizenship to Afghan nationals was reviewed and all Afghan nationals belonging to the Hindu and Sikh community have become eligible for Indian citizenship by naturalization under section 6(1) of the Citizenship Act, 1955. Afghan women married to Indian citizens have also become eligible for Indian citizenship under section 5(1)(c) of the Citizenship Act, 1955.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) In terms of Section 3 of the Citizenship Act, 1955:—

(i) Every person born in India between 26.01.1950 to 30.06.1987 is a citizen of India;

(ii) Every person born in India between 01.07.1987 to 02.12.2004 is treated as citizen of India provided either of his/her parents is a citizen of India;

(iii) Every person born in India on or after 03.12.2004, is also a citizen of India provided both parents are citizens of India or one of the parents is a citizen of India and the other is not an illegal migrant at the time of his birth.

(d) Afghan nationals of Hindu and Sikh community staying in India, who are registered with Foreigners Regional Registration Officers (FRRO's)/Foreigners Registration Officers (FRO's), are granted the facility of two re-entries in a year for a maximum period of 45 days each or one re-entry for a maximum period of 90 days for the purpose of (i) disposal of their property in Afghanistan, or (ii) to visit a country other than Afghanistan and Pakistan, if the request is found justified.

(e) and (f) Indian Missions abroad grant appropriate visas to Afghan nationals on their request after usual checks to visit their families who are living in India permanently. They are granted extension subject to the condition that their stay does not exceed three months in the country.

Stampede deaths at religious places

947. SHRI A. VIJAYARAGHAVAN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) how many stampede deaths were reported from religious places in the last four years;

(b) whether Government is suggesting any concrete methods to control crowds at such places in future to avoid disaster; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) A total of 686 stampede deaths were reported from religious places in the last four year.

(b) and (c) The Government has been issuing guidelines, alerts, instructions to State authorities from time to time to regulate crowed congregations, in order to avoid disasters.

Naxal activities spreading in various parts of country

948. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether naxal activities are spreading in various parts of the country particularly in Maharashtra;

(b) if so, the details of the States affected thereby;

(c) the details of persons killed including civilians and security personnel and loss of property along with naxalites arrested and killed during last two years;

(d) whether any nexus between naxalites and other militant outfits and/or ISI has been reported;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the details of steps taken or proposed to be taken against such naxal violence in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) to (c) Naxal violence is being reported from parts of the 9 States of Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Orissa, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal. However, 4 States of Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand and Orissa together account for about 86% per cent of the incidents and casualties of civilians and security forces. In macro terms, the number of incidents has remained more or less at the same level during the last few years. The State-wise break-up of naxal violence and casualties is given in the Statement. (*See* below).

(d) and (e) As per available information there is no nexus between naxalites and other militant outfits including ISI.

(f) Concerned State Governments take necessary action to deal with naxalite activities. The Central Government supplements their efforts and resources through a variety of measures that include deployment of Central paramilitary forces which work under the control of the State Governments concerned, sanctioning of India Reserve battalions, assistance for strengthening of the State Police Forces, reimbursement of security related expenditure, sharing of intelligence, bringing about Inter-State coordination and assistance in development works through a range of schemes of various Central Ministries.